

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are all the claims pending in the present application. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 9 are withdrawn from consideration. In summary, the Examiner maintains the previous rejections of the claims. Specifically, claims 1 and 10 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Yoshinobu (JP 2002084724) (relying on EP 1482625 for translation). Claim 4 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yoshinobu in view of Kitazawa (JP 09065617). Finally, claim 7 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yoshinobu in view of Maestre (US Patent No. 5,300,884).

§102(a) Rejections (Yoshinobu) - Claims 1 and 10

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicants amend claim 1 for clarification purposes and maintain the previously submitted arguments. That is, Applicants submit that Yoshinobu does not disclose or suggest at least, “wherein said rotary shaft itself serves as a magnetic flux interrupting means made of a non-magnetic material for interrupting leakage flux passing onto said rotary shaft as a result of excitation of a rotor coil wound on said rotor core,” as recited in amended claim 1. The Examiner alleges that numbered paragraph 25 of EP 1482625 (which is a corresponding translation of Yoshinobu) satisfies the above-quoted feature. However, numbered paragraph 25 only teaches that a coupling 32, which is filled with, or bound by, a mass of non-magnetic material 33, is a magnetic flux interrupting means. Nowhere does Yoshinobu disclose or suggest that the rotary shaft itself is magnetic flux interrupting means.

Applicants submit that dependent claim 10 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 1.

§103(a) Rejections (Yoshinobu / Kitazawa) - Claim 4

Applicants submit that dependent claim 4 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 1. Kitazawa does not make up for the deficiencies of Yoshinobu.

§103(a) Rejections (Yoshinobu / Maestre) - Claim 7

Applicants submit that claim 7 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 1. Maestre does not make up for the deficiencies of Yoshinobu.

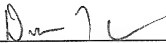
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER


Diallo T. Crenshaw
Registration No. 52,778

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